



PRESIDENT CLINTON:

“Last fall...the United States signed the agreement to bring China into the WTO, on terms that will open its market to American products and investment. When China concludes similar agreements with other countries, it will join the WTO. But...for us to benefit from that we must first grant it permanent normal trading status—the same arrangement we have given other countries in the WTO...Congress will not be voting on whether China will join the WTO. Congress can only decide whether the United States will share in the economic benefits of China joining the WTO. A vote against PNTR will cost America jobs, as our competitors in Europe, Asia, and elsewhere capture Chinese markets that we otherwise would have served. Supporting China’s entry into the WTO, however, is about more than our economic interests. It is clearly in our larger national interest. It represents the most significant opportunity that we have had to create positive change in China since the 1970s, when President Nixon first went there, and later in the decade when President Carter normalized relations. I am working as hard as I can to convince Congress and the American people to seize this opportunity.”

The Clinton Administration Statement on Permanent Normal Trade Relations for China

A STRONG DEAL IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF AMERICA

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